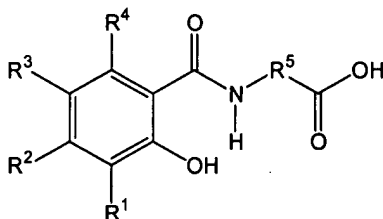


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

1. (Original): A disodium salt of a delivery agent having the formula



wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are independently hydrogen, -OH, -NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup>, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>16</sub> alkylene, substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>16</sub> alkenylene, substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkyl(arylene), or substituted or unsubstituted aryl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene); and

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are independently hydrogen, oxygen, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl.

2. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

3. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

4. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

5. (Original): An ethanol solvate of the disodium salt of claim 1.

6. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

7. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

8. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

9. (Original): A monohydrate of the disodium salt of claim 1.

10. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

11. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

12. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

13. (Original): A composition comprising at least about 50% by weight of the disodium salt of claim 1, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

14. (Original): The composition of claim 13, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

15. (Original): A composition comprising:

(a) the disodium salt of claim 1, ethanol solvate thereof, or monohydrate thereof; and

(b) at least one active agent.

16. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition comprises at least about 50% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

17. (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

18. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the monohydrate, based upon 100% total weight of hydrate of the disodium salt of the delivery agent in the composition.

19. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of growth hormones; human growth hormones; recombinant human growth hormones; bovine growth hormones; porcine growth hormones; growth hormone-releasing hormones; interferons;  $\alpha$ -interferon;  $\beta$ -interferon;  $\gamma$ -interferon; interleukin-1; interleukin-2; insulin; porcine insulin; bovine insulin; human insulin; human recombinant insulin; insulin-like growth factor; IGF-1; heparin; unfractionated heparin; heparinoids; dermatans; chondroitins; low molecular weight heparin; very low molecular weight heparin; ultra low molecular weight heparin; calcitonin; salmon calcitonin; eel calcitonin; human calcitonin; porcine calcitonin; erythropoietin; atrial natriuretic factor; antigens; monoclonal antibodies; somatostatin; protease inhibitors; adrenocorticotropin; gonadotropin releasing hormone; oxytocin; leutinizing-hormone-releasing-hormone; follicle stimulating hormone; glucocerebrosidase; thrombopoietin; filgrastim; prostaglandins; cyclosporin; vasopressin; cromolyn sodium;

sodium chromoglycate; disodium chromoglycate; vancomycin; desferrioxamine; parathyroid hormone; fragments of parathyroid hormone; antimicrobials; anti-fungal agents; vitamins; analogs, fragments, mimetics and polyethylene glycol-modified derivatives of these compounds; and any combination thereof.

20. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of heparin and calcitonin.

21. (Original): A dosage unit form comprising:

- (a) the composition of claim 15; and
- (b)
  - (i) an excipient,
  - (ii) a diluent,
  - (iii) a disintegrant,
  - (iv) a lubricant,
  - (v) a plasticizer,
  - (vi) a colorant,
  - (vii) a dosing vehicle, or
  - (viii) any combination thereof.

22. (Original): A solid dosage unit form comprising a lyophilized mixture comprising

- (a) the disodium salt of claim 1; and
- (b) at least one active agent.

Claims 23-28 (Canceled)

29. (New): A method for administering salmon calcitonin to an animal in need thereof, the method comprising administering orally to the animal a composition comprising:

(a) N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid, wherein N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid comprises at least about 96% by weight of the disodium salt of N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid; and

(b) salmon calcitonin.